



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

****NEWS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Burmaster awards \$9.48 million in charter grants

Grants support planning activities for 18 charter schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster today announced awards of \$9.48 million in charter school funding to support planning of new charter schools and first and second year start-up activities in new charter schools.

“Wisconsin is working to create charter schools with strong academic programs that serve the diverse needs of our students,” Burmaster said. “Charter schools provide an important option to develop new models for delivering education or administering a school. Each community that opens a charter school must evaluate how it can best meet local needs and provide a curriculum that boosts learning for all students and helps us close the achievement gap.”

Earlier this year, Wisconsin was notified it would receive \$17 million in funding for charter schools for the first year of a \$52 million three-year grant. Schools receiving grants will be eligible for supplemental planning and implementation funds later in the year. Additionally, \$1.7 million of the state’s federal funding will be allocated for dissemination grants, which allow experienced charter schools to share information about their success. Applications for dissemination grants are due Dec. 16.

Wisconsin currently has 181 charter schools, which are public schools that are accountable to their authorizing agency for performance measures included in the charter contract. Charter schools must employ licensed teachers, involve parents, administer statewide tests, and comply with federal regulations that govern all public schools.

The state enacted its initial charter legislation in 1993, allowing 10 districts to each create two charter schools. Districts opened 13 charter schools under the 1993 law, which has been amended to allow all districts to charter an unlimited number of charter schools and to extend chartering authority to the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

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Charter School Grants

2005-06 Fiscal Year

Planning Grants (\$10,000 each)

Appleton Area School District
Foster Elementary

Baraboo School District
Baraboo Hills Elementary

Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine School District
R-NEW Trades

Central Westosha UHS
Central-Westosha Charter School

Fond du Lac School District
Cardinal Connections

Marshfield School District
Marshfield Intergenerational Learning Center

MILWAUKEE
City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee Career Exploration Center

Milwaukee Public Schools
Downtown Institute of Arts and Letters
Lightstreams Educational Center
New Concepts High School of Creative
and Performing Arts

VISUAL
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Living Arts High School

North Lake School District
North Lake Music Academy

Osceola School District
Osceola Career Charter

Oshkosh Area School District
Merrill Elementary Healthy Living

Ripon School District
Ripon Exploration and Application (REACH)

Sauk Prairie School District
Merrimac Community Charter

Verona Area School District
Verona 4-Year-Old Kindergarten

Implementation Grants (\$150,000 each)

Appleton Area School District
Appleton Public Montessori
Fox River Academy

Augusta School District
Wildlands Science Research School

Cambridge School District
JEDI Virtual High School

Janesville School District
Janesville Academy for International Studies

Kiel Area School District
Meeme LEADS

Kimberly Area School District
Caring Opportunities for Recovery Education

Lena Public School District
LEARN

Medford Area School District
Rural Virtual Academy

Menasha School District
Chance II

MILWAUKEE
City of Milwaukee
Maasai Institute

Milwaukee Public Schools
Alliance School
Aurora Weier Early College Bilingual High School
Honey Creek Continuous Progress School
Milwaukee Learning Lab and Institute
Milwaukee Academy of Aviation, Science, and Technology
Next Door Charter School
W.E.B. DuBois High School

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Inland Seas School of Expeditionary Learning
Tenor High School

Monroe School District
MMS Alternative Charter

Osceola School District
Osceola Charter Preschool

Sheboygan Area School District
Riverview Academy

Shorewood School District
New Horizons for Learning

Wausau School District
New Horizons Charter School
Wausau Area Montessori

Wilmot Grade School District
Wilmot Bright Horizons

Wisconsin Rapids School District
Central Cities Health Institute

Implementation Renewal Grants (\$150,000 each)

Appleton Area School District
Dan Spalding Academy

Argyle School District
Argyle Land Ethic Academy

Blair-Taylor School District
School of Science, Engineering, Technology

Clinton Community School District
Language Instruction for Tomorrow (LIFT)

Grantsburg School District
Grantsburg Virtual School

Kohler School District
Northeast Wisconsin Online Charter

Madison Metropolitan School District
Nuestro Mundo Charter School

MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee Public Schools
Academia de Lenguaje y Bellas Artes (ALBA)
Advanced Language and Academic Studies (ALAS)
CITIES Project High School
Community Business and Trade Center
Community High School
Genesis High School
Hmong American Peace Academy
Humboldt Park K-8 School
Milwaukee School of Entrepreneurship
Preparatory School for Global Leadership
School of Humanities
Truth Institute for Leadership and Service
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Capitol West Academy
Woodlands School

Mukwonago School District
Eagleville Elementary

Neenah School District
Alliance Charter Elementary

Oshkosh Area School District
Accelerated Alternative Learning Program (ALPs)
Journeys
Oshkosh East High School

Rhineland School District
Northwoods Community Elementary School
Northwoods Community Secondary School

Sparta Area School District
Lakeview Montessori Charter School
Sparta Area Independent Learning School (SAILS)

Stevens Point Area Public Schools
Jefferson School for the Arts
Roosevelt IDEA
Washington Service-Learning Center

Waukesha School District
Waukesha Academy of Health Professions